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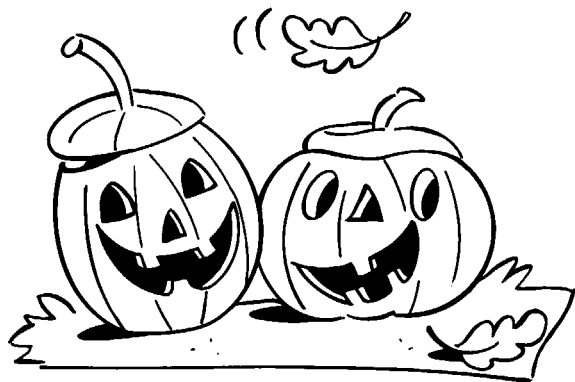


**Tommy Tales are downloadable and printable
books only available on the Internet
from the following Web sites:
www.learningpage.com
www.readinga-z.com**

**Tommy Tales feature the lovable rascal
Tommy Tomkins and his friends.**

**Supporting material is available on the
Learning Page Web site, including
teaching notes, worksheets, and fact files.**

**Look for the next Tommy Tales adventure—
coming soon from Learning Page.**



BOOK 18



Tommy's Halloween Adventure



Tommy Tales

Tommy and Sam couldn't wait to get to the park. It was Halloween, and Tommy and his little sister were wearing their Halloween costumes. They wanted to see how their friends looked in their costumes.

When they reached the park, their friends were already waiting on the big blue bench.

"Hey, Kim! You look great. We'll call you Kitten Kim," said Tommy.

"And look at Andy," said Sam. "He's a pirate."



There was a flash of light and a cloud of blue smoke. When the smoke cleared, they were back in the park.

"Where did you go?" said Andy.

"Did you have a good time?" asked Sam.

"We'll tell you later," said Tommy.

"Let's go trick-or-treating."



"Can we come with you, please?" said Billy, very politely.

From that time on, Billy and Bobby were never bullies again.



When Tommy made himself normal size again, he took Bobby's arm and said, "Let's go back to the cornfield. I'm sure that Lucy and Billy will be waiting for us there."

When they got back to the cornfield, Lucy and Billy were waiting.

"Please get RK-5 to take us back, quickly," said Lucy.

"Let's go, RK-5," said Tommy. He then whispered, "Make sure that Billy and Bobby don't remember anything."

"Tommy, you are a very scary ghost. I hardly recognized you," said Lucy.

The friends were having a great time comparing costumes. They didn't notice two boys watching them from behind a bush. The boys were also wearing Halloween costumes. The boys suddenly rushed up to Tommy and pushed him to the ground.



"Oh, no!" said Kim. "It's Bobby and Billy, the school bullies."

When Tommy hit the ground, RK-5, his little robot, fell from his pocket.

Billy snatched RK-5 from the ground and said, "What's this little toy, ghost boy?"

"Give him back, Billy!" yelled Tommy.

Billy and Bobby laughed.

"And what will you do if I don't?"

Billy asked.

When Billy turned to look at his bully friend, Tommy made a grab for RK-5.

Billy was strong and wouldn't let go. Lucy took hold of Tommy's waist and helped him pull. Then Bobby helped Billy pull. Billy and Bobby were pulling one way, and Tommy and Lucy were pulling the other way.



"This is wrong," said Tommy in a booming voice. "You cannot sell people. No one can own another person. You must release all these people immediately and give them their freedom. If you do not, terrible things will happen to all of you and your village." Tommy made a few ghostly screams for effect and then shrank himself down to a tiny size so that it looked as if he had disappeared.

The auctioneer quickly gave each of the Africans, and Lucy and Billy, a paper that said they were free. He then told them to take the horse and cart, get out of the village, and not come back.



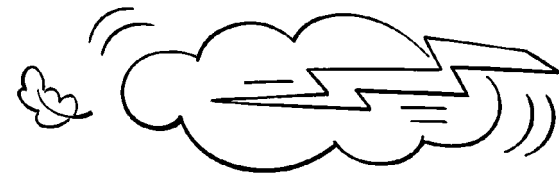
Tommy walked to the side of the stage and pressed the “increase size” buttons on RK-5’s button pad.

Tommy was wearing his ghost mask and looked really scary. He was ten feet tall and looked down on the crowd.

Everyone yelled and screamed. Even Billy and Lucy looked scared.



Billy’s fingers were pressing on RK-5’s buttons. Suddenly there was a flash of light and a cloud of blue smoke. When the smoke cleared, Tommy, Lucy, RK-5, Billy, and Bobby had all disappeared.



“Oops!” said Kim. “RK-5 has accidentally taken them somewhere.”

“I hope they’ll be back in time to go trick-or-treating with us,” said Sam.



Tommy and the others landed in a cornfield. Billy had let go of RK-5. Tommy quickly picked him up and put him in his pocket.

Tommy and Lucy knew what had happened, but the two bullies were very puzzled.

“What happened?” said Bobby.

“Where are we?” said Billy.

“Don’t worry about that now,” said Tommy.

“I think we’re in big trouble. Look on the road over there.”



“Who will buy this boy and girl? They are both strong and will give you many years of hard work. Who’ll give me one hundred dollars for each of them?”

“Hey, RK-5, remember you made us small to study insects? Could you make me big?” Tommy asked.

“Of course I can,” replied RK-5. “I can increase your size so that you will be five times bigger.”

“I think I can scare these people,” said Tommy. “Since I am dressed as a ghost, if you make me ten feet tall, they will surely be frightened.”

"What's happening?" cried Bobby. The bully wasn't so brave anymore. He was sobbing into his bandanna.

"Stop crying!" said Tommy. "I have to think of a plan to get Lucy and Billy back."

"First, we have to go into the village," said Tommy. "Nobody is going to bother us."

When they reached the center of the village, they saw that all the Africans and Lucy and Billy had been taken out of the cart and were standing on a stage in the village square. Many people crowded around the stage. A tall man stood on a big wooden box at the front of the stage. Lucy and Billy had been pushed to the front of the stage.

**SLAVE
AUCTION**

They all looked through the corn and saw a cart being pulled by a horse. All around the cart were men riding horses. All the men had guns. In the cart were many Africans. The African families crowded in the cart looked afraid and very worried.

"We must help them," said Lucy. "Those poor people have been captured in Africa. They are going to be sold as slaves. RK-5 has taken us back to the early 1800s!"



"Correct!" said RK-5, "We are in 1847.
But it was not my fault."

"What can we do?" asked Tommy. "Those men have guns."

"Let's follow the cart and see what happens," said Lucy.

They set off to follow the cart. Billy and Bobby didn't really know what was happening. They didn't want to stay on their own, so they followed behind Tommy and Lucy.



After about a mile, the cart slowed down to enter a village. The children had to leave the fields in order to keep following the cart. As they walked along the road, they heard a voice behind them.

"Hey, what's going on here? Did these two escape?"

The voice came from a big man riding a horse.

He grabbed hold of Lucy and Billy.

He pulled them up on his horse and rode off in the direction of the cart.

